

REASONS, for the Indictment of the D. of York, presented to the Grand Jury of Middlesex, Saturday, June 26. 1680. By the persons hereunder Named.

I. **B**ecause the 25th. Car. 2^d. when an Act was made to throw Popish Recusants out of all Offices and Places of Trust. The Duke of York did lay down several great Offices and Places (as Lord High Admiral of England, Generalissimo of all his Majesties Forces, both by Land and Sea; Governour of the Cinque Ports; and divers others) thereby to avoid the Punishment of that Law against Papists.

II. 30th. Car. 2^d. When an Act was made to disable Papists from sitting in either House of Parliament; There was a *Proviso* inserted in that Act; That it should not extend to the Duke of York. On purpose to save his Right of sitting in the Lords House; though he refuseth to take those Oaths which the Protestant Peers ought to do.

III. That his Majesty in his Speech March 6. the 31. year of his Reign, doth give for a Reason to the Parliament, why he sent his Brother out of England; because he would leave no man room to say, that he had not removed all cause which might influence him to Popish Counsels.

IV. That there have been diverse Letters read in both Houses of Parliament, and at the secret Committees of both Houses from several Cardinals and others at Rome; and also from other Popish Bishops and Agents of the Pope, in other Forreign parts, which do apparently shew the great Correspondencies between the D. of Y. and the Pope. And how the Pope could not choose but weep for joy, at the reading of some of the Dukes Letters, and what great satisfaction it was to the Pope, to hear the Duke was advanced to the Catholick Religion. That the Pope has granted *Brevés* to the D. sent him *Beads*. ample *Indulgences*, with much more to this purpose.

V. That the whole House of Commons hath declared him to be a Papist in their Votes, Sunday, April 6th. 1679. Resolved, *nemine contradicente*, That the Duke of York's being a Papist, and the hopes of his coming such to the Crown, has given the greatest countenance and encouragement to the present Conspiracy and Designs of the Papists against the King and Protestant Religion.

What this Conspiracy and Design is, will appear by a Declaration of both Houses of Parliament, March 25. 79. Resolved, *Nemine Contradicente*, by the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons in Parliament Assembled; That they do declare, That they are fully satisfied, by the proofs they have heard, there now is, and for diverse years last past, hath been a horrid and treasonable Plot and Conspiracy contrived and carried on by those of the Popish Religion, for the Murthering of his Majesties sacred Person, and for the subverting the Protestant Religion, and the ancient well Established Government of this Realm.

VI. That besides all this Proof, and much more to this purpose, it is most notorious and evident, he hath for many years absented himself from Protestant Churches during Religious Worship.

These are the Reasons why we believe the Duke of York to be a Papist.

Huntington,	Sir Edward Hungerford	Tho. Wharton,
Shafisbury,	Kt. of the Bath.	Sir William Cooper, Barronet.
Gray of Wark.	Sir Hen. Calverly,	Sir Gilbert Gerrard, Barronet.
L. Russel,	Tho. Thyn, Esq;	Sir Scroop How.
L. Cavendish,	Will. Forrester, Esq;	
L. Brandon.	John Trenchard, Esq;	

The Jury was sent for up by the Court of Kings-Bench, whilst they were on this Indictment, and Dismiss'd, so that nothing was farther done upon it, saving that the Jury received the Presentment. And by the Dismission of the Jury, a very great number of Indictments were Discharged. A thing scarcely to be parallel'd, and of very ill consequence, not only to many private persons, but chiefly to the Publick,

Die Martis, 25 Martii. 1679.

Resolved, nemine contradicente, by the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons in Parliament assembled; That they do declare, That they are fully satisfied by the Proofs they have heard, There now is, and for divers years last past hath been a Horrid, and Treasonable Plot and Conspiracy, contrived and carried on by those of the Popish Religion for the Murdering of his Majesties sacred Person, and for subverting the Protestant Religion, and the ancient, and established Government of this Kingdom.

To Brown Cleric' Parliamentor?

Sunday, April 27. 1679.

Resolved,

Nemine contradicente, That the Duke of York being a Papist, and the hopes of his coming such to the Crown, hath given the greatest Incuragement and Countenance to the present Conspiracies and Designs of the Papists against the King and Protestant Religion.

Ordered,

That the Lord Russell do go up to the Lords to desire their Concurrence to this Vote.

Ordered,

That the Secret Committee bring an Abstract of all those Letters they have, or can come by, that concern the Duke of York as to the Plot, with all speed.

Sunday, May 11. 1679.

Ordered,

That a Bill be brought in to disable the Duke of York to Inherit the Imperial Crown of this Realm.

Resolved Nemine contradicente,

That in Defence of the King's Person and the Protestant Religion, this House doth declare, that they will stand by His Majesty with their Lives and Fortunes; and that if His Majesty should come by any violent Death, (which God forbid) that they will revenge it to the utmost on the Papist.

Ordered,

That these Votes be drawn in the form of an Address, to be presented to His Majesty, which is as follows.

May, 14. 1679.

Most Dread Sovereign,

We your Majesties most Dutiful and Loyal Subjects, the Commons in this present Parliament assembled, do with all humble gratitude acknowledge your most gracious Assurances your Majesty hath been pleased to give us of your constant care to do every thing that may preserve the Protestant Religion, of your firm Resolution to defend the same to the utmost, and your Royal Endeavours that the security of that Blessing may be transmitted to Posterity. And we do humbly represent to your Majesty, That being deeply sensible that the greatest hopes of Success against our Religion in the Enemies thereof the Papists, are founded in the execrable Designs which they have laid against your Sacred Person, and the Life of your Majesty; which it is not only our Duty, but our Interest, with the greatest hazard to preserve and defend. We have applied our Councils to the making such provisions by Law as may defeat these Popish Adversaries, their Abettors and Adherents of their hopes of gaining any Advantage by any Violent Attempts against your Majesty, and may utterly frustrate their expectation of subverting the Protestant Religion thereby in time to come. And further, to obviate by the best means we can, all wicked Practices against your Majesty, while any such Laws are in preparation and bringing to perfection. It is our Resolution, and we do declare, That in Defence of your Majesties Person, and the Protestant Religion, we will stand by your Majesty with our Lives and Fortunes, and shall be ready to revenge upon the Papists any Violence offered by them to your Sacred Person; In which we hope your Majesty will graciously please to be the more assured, as we ourselves are the more encouraged, in that the hearts of all your Majesty's Protestant Subjects with the most sincere Affection and Zeal join with us herein.

May the 19th. The House of Commons attended His Majesty with this Address, whereunto His Majesty was pleased to return this Gracious Answer following:

Gentlemen,

I thank you for your Zeal, for the Preservation of the Protestant Religion, and my Person; and I assure you I shall do what in me lies to preserve the Protestant Religion, and am willing to do all such things, as may tend to the good and benefit of my Subjects.

Wednesday, May 21. 1679.

The Chairman of the Committee of Secresy report several Letters, most of them tending to the great Assurance and Confidence the Popish Party had, by reason of the Duke of York's being a Papist: After which the Bill to dis-able the Duke of York to Inherit the Imperial Crown of this Realm, was read a second time, and committed to a Committee of the whole House on Friday, next then following.

FINIS.